

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (canceled)

1           2. (currently amended) A method of making a vascular  
2 prosthesis or tissue web of [[of]] biocompatible polyurethane,  
3 polyamide, polysulfone, polyester, isotactic polypropylene,  
4 polynitrile or polyvinylchloride, mixtures thereof or their  
5 copolymers, with a microporous finely fibular structure,  
6 characterized by a definitive stretching (extension) with a degree  
7 of extension between 30% and 150%, and subsequent relaxation.

1           3. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2 2 wherein a pore size of the vascular prosthesis or of the tissue  
3 patch before the stretching is less than an extended dimension  
4 expected prior to stretching and beyond which the vascular  
5 prosthesis or tissue patch does not retract.

1           4. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2 2 wherein the stretching is a uniaxial or biaxial stretching.

1           5. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2 2 wherein the vascular prosthesis or the tissue patch prior to the  
3 stretching is soaked in polyvinylalcohol (PVA),

4 polyvinylpyrrolidone or gelatine (collagen) that is completely or  
5 partially drawn into the vascular prosthesis or the tissue patch on  
6 an outer side thereof.

1 6. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2 2 wherein the vascular prosthesis is tubular and for stretching a  
3 requisite pressure is applied from the interior with air or N<sub>2</sub>, or  
4 with a liquid medium.

1 7. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2 6 wherein to avoid leakage, a yieldable auxiliary body is  
3 introduced into the vascular prosthesis to be stretched and is  
4 thereafter pressurized with a pressure applying medium.

1 8. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2 5 wherein the stretching is carried out with an auxiliary body  
3 capable of mechanical size adjustment upon which the tissue patch  
4 is previously clamped or which is introduced into the tubular  
5 prosthesis.

1 9. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2 5 wherein for widening a tubular vascular prosthesis, a drawing  
3 mandrel is used.

1           10. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2       2 wherein to produce the vascular prosthesis or the tissue patch at  
3       least one aliphatic and/or at least one cycloaliphatic diisocyanate  
4       is reacted with a polycarbonate, polyester, polyether, polysiloxane,  
5       or polysulfone macrodiol with an average molecular weight of 500 to  
6       6000, whereby the ratio of NCO terminal groups of the prepolymer to  
7       OH groups of the chain lengthening agent is 1.01 :1 to 1.05:1 and  
8       the polymer obtained, optionally aftertreatment with a reagent for  
9       deactivating NCO groups which may still be present, is subjected to  
10      a molecular weight fractionation in which the low molecular weight  
11      polyurethane fraction making up 10% to 50% by weight of the polymer  
12      is separated off and discarded and the remaining high molecular  
13      weight fractionation is recovered as the biocompatible polyurethane  
14      with improved properties.

1           11. (previously presented) The method according to  
2       claim 2 wherein the degree of extension is 60% to 125%.

1           12. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2  
2       wherein the prosthesis or web ~~is relaxed by~~ has a slight remaining  
3       extension of 3% to 5%.